

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABIDJA 09182 171033Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 IO-13 EUR-12 /090 W
-----009873 171039Z /20

R 161655Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5352
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABIDJAN 9182

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, UR, SO, ET, IV
SUBJECT: DRAWING AFRICA ATTENTION TO SOVIET ACTIVITY IN
THE HORN

REF: (A) STATE 210166, (B) DAKAR 6152

1. FOREIGN MINISTRY DIRECTOR OF CABINET NOUAMA DESCRIBED
IVORIAN POSITION ON CONFLICT IN THE HORN AS VERY SIMILAR TO
THAT OF SENEGAL. HE CITED SENGHOR'S LE MONDE INTERVIEW,
AND SAID GOIC WAS CONVINCED OF ABSOLUTE NECESSITY OF ADHERING
TO OAU POSITION ON MAINTAINING FORMER COLONIAL FRONTIERS.
GOIC WOULD NOT WISH TO GET INVOLVED IN DETAILS, OR EVALUATING
BORDER CONFLICTS ON CASE-BY-CASE BASIS. TO DO SO WOULD
MAKE STILL MORE COMPLICATED THE PROBLEMS BETWEEN CHAD AND
LIBYA, MALI AND UPPER VOLTA, AND EVEN IVORY COAST AND
GHANA. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, SOMALI TAKEOVER OF OGADEN
WAS AND WOULD REMAIN UNACCEPTABLE TO GOIC.

2. SPLITTING A FAIRLY FINE HAIR, NOUAMA SAID ERITSEAN
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PAGE 02 ABIDJA 09182 171033Z

UPRISING WAS DIFFERENT CASE, SINCE ETHIOPIA HAS NOT BEEN
A COLONY WHEN IT PREEMPTED ERITREA IN TO THE EMPIRE. ERITREAN
PROBLEM WAS ON OF SELF-DETERMINATION, WHICH GOIC HOPES
COULD EVENTUALLY FIND PEACEFUL SOLUTION.

3. NOUAMA AGREED WITH OUR SUGGESTION THAT SOVIETS WERE
PLAYING A MISCHIEVOUS AND IRRESPONSIBLE ROLE IN ARMING BOTH

SIDES OF ETHIOPIAN-SOMALIAN CONFLICT. WE NOTED THERE HAD BEEN NO PUBLIC IVORIAN POSITION ON THIS ISSUE, IN CONTRAST WITH SHAPR CRITICISM OF SOVIET-CUBAN INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA AND ELSEWHERE. NOUAMA OFFERED TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH FONMIN AKE PRIOR TO LATTER'S DEPARTURE FOR NEW YORK SEPTEMBER 19 AND PROVIDE MORE DEFINITIVE IVORIAN POSITION.

4. PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET AND GOIC HAVE BEEN OUTSPOKEN IN EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER SOVIET INCURSIONS IN AFRICA. DESPITE OPPOSITION TO SOMALI MOVE ON OGADEN, WE BELIEVE IT NOT UNLIKELY IVORY COAST WILL BE PREPARED MAKE SOME FORM OF STATEMENT DEPLORING SOVIET INVOLVEMENT IN HORN CONFLICT. LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY OR PRESIDENT CARTER WOULD BE MOST USEFUL IN THIS CONNECTION.
COOKE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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